



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,578	06/26/2003	Sean Blagsvedt	60001.0248US01/MS301876.1	4681

27488 7590 01/24/2007
MERCHANT & GOULD (MICROSOFT)
P.O. BOX 2903
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903

EXAMINER

BONSHOCK, DENNIS G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2173

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/24/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/606,578

Applicant(s)

BLAGSVEDT ET AL.

Examiner

Dennis G. Bonshock

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9-8-03, 9-23-05, 5-26-06</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 26 is objected to because of the following informalities: line 13, should conclude with a semi-colon. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
3. Claim 13 recites the limitation "the alternate electronic mail address". in line 6.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
4. Claim 36 recites the limitation "the electronic mail address". in line 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
5. Claim 36 recites the limitation "the alternate unique identification". in line 6.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
6. Claim 36 recites the limitation "the alternate electronic mail address". in line 7.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2173

2. Claims 1-16, 19-24, 26-32, 34-39, 42-47, 49 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agassi et al, Patent No.: US 7,127,473, hereinafter Agassi and Burkey et al, Pub. No.: US 2007/0011148, hereinafter Burkey.

3. With regard to claim 1, which teaches a method for aggregating person-centric information for displaying in a user interface, comprising: parsing an electronic document for a person name, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-9 and in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, a system for gaining person related content regarding a persons name (discussion object 355, "Geroge Simmons") found in a document. With regard to claim 1, which further teaches passing the person name to one or more data sources containing person-centric data; at one or more data sources, obtaining any person-centric data associated with the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 26-33, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, and in figures 1 and 5, a "supplemental content selector" [125] that gathers information pertaining to the "discussion objects" from "information sources" [110 and/or 135]. With regard to claim 1, which further teaches populating data structure for the person name with an y person-centric data obtained at the one or more data sources; and providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to he person name in the electronic document, Agassi teaches, in column 7, lines 49-58, column 9, line 50 through column 10, line 6, and figures 4 and 5, a "pagination engine" that collects the supplemental content related information and prepares it for display on the graphical user interface adjacent to the persons name.

Though Agassi teaches finding a persons name in an electronic document (see column 6, lines 1-9 and in 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6), Agassi, however, doesn't explicitly teach parsing an electronic document to find a persons name. Burkey teaches a system that gathers related content to select elements (participants listed) in an electronic document and provides the supplemental information from various sources to the user (see paragraphs 6 and 174), similar to that of Agassi, but further specifically teaches parsing the original electronic document to reveal relevant elements to gain further information on. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Agassi and Burkey before him at the time the invention was made to modify the context sensitive content providing system of Agassi, to use parsing to reveal important objects in the text, as in Burkey. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this provides an art recognized efficient means for breaking down and analyzing text to detect relevant objects.

4. With regard to claim 2, which teaches displaying one or more name-centric actions in the graphical user interface, Agassi teaches, in paragraph 9, line 25 through column 10, line 6, retrieving and providing to the user name specific actions such as allowing a user to contact the user.

5. With regard to claim 3, which teaches parsing an electronic document for a person name includes obtaining unique identifying information associated with the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-9 and 20-33, if no content metadata information exists for the text using a metadata enhancer to examine and determine

Art Unit: 2173

metadata content, and subsequently checking the information sources for associated content.

6. With regard to claim 4, which teaches obtaining unique identifying information associated with the person name includes: obtaining any data associated with the person name that may be used to identify the person name, Agassi teaches, in paragraph 2, lines 22-33, column 6, lines 1-9, and paragraph 9, line 25 through column 10, line 6, the system using metadata to identify and link name elements to additional content.

7. With regard to claim 5, which teaches obtaining unique identifying information associated with the person name includes obtaining an electronic mail address for the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 5, line 60-64 and figure 4, the retrieved information comprising a linked email address.

8. With regard to claim 6, which teaches if no unique identifying information is associated with the person name in the electronic document, recognizing the person name from text or data in which the person name is included: passing the recognized person name to a contacts database, and obtaining unique identifying information for the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-9 and 20-33, if no content metadata information exists for the text using a metadata enhancer to examine and determine metadata content, and subsequently checking the information sources for associated content.

9. With regard to claim 7, which teaches passing the unique identifying information associated with the person name to the one or more data sources of person-centric

Art Unit: 2173

data, teaches, in column 6, lines 1-33 and in column 9, lines 25-36, accessing information sources to obtain person-centric information from identifying keywords.

10. With regard to claim 8, which teaches passing the unique identifying information associated with the person name to the one or more data sources of person-centric data includes: passing an electronic mail address to one or more data sources of containing person-centric data, Agassi teaches, a system where a user can pass identified content (such as an email address) to a information source, to obtain additional information. (see paragraph 2, lines 22-33, column 6, lines 1-9, and paragraph 9, line 25 through column 10, line 6, column 5, line 60-64 and figure 4). Burkey further specifies specifically parsing for an email address to use to access databases for obtaining user-centric content (see paragraph 174).

11. With regard to claim 9, which teaches passing the person name to the one or more data sources via a persona menu application, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 26-33, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, and in figures 1 and 5, a "supplemental content selector" [125] that gathers information pertaining to the "discussion objects" from "information sources" [110 and/or 135]. Agassi further teaches a "supplemental content selector" [125] application that collaborates with a "user preference data base" [615] to query the "information sources" [110 and 135] for obtaining person-centric data (see column 10, lines 36-41 and figures 5 and 6).

12. With regard to claim 10, which teaches querying the one or more data sources by the persona menu application, Agassi teaches a "supplemental content selector" [125] application that collaborates with a "user preference data base" [615] to query the

"information sources" [110 and 135] for obtaining person-centric data (see column 10, lines 36-41 and figures 5 and 6).

13. With regard to claim 11, which teaches prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the any person-centric data, returning the any person-centric data associated with the person name from the one or more data sources to the persona menu application, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-9 and 20-33, if no content metadata information exists for the text using a metadata enhancer to examine and determine metadata content, and subsequently checking the information sources for associated content. Agassi further teaches a "supplemental content selector" [125] application that collaborates with a "user preference data base" [615] to query the "information sources" [110 and 135] for obtaining person-centric data (see column 10, lines 36-41 and figures 5 and 6).

14. With regard to claim 12, which teaches prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the any person centric data, building the data structure having data properties corresponding to person-centric data obtainable from the one or more data sources, Agassi teaches, in column 13, line 68 through column 14, line 21, a pagination that builds the data structure prior to being displayed.

15. With regard to claim 13, which teaches if the one or more data sources do not contain person-centric data matching unique identifying information associated with the person name, querying a contacts database for an alternate unique identifying information associated with the person name and passing the alternate unique identifying information associated with the person name to the one or more data

Art Unit: 2173

sources for obtaining person-centric data for the alternate electronic mail address, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-33 and in figure 1, first testing for the provided metadata on the databases, then a meta data enhancer may be used to further enhance the article by providing content metadata (or additional content metadata if some content metadata already exists).

16. With regard to claim 14, which teaches prior to providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, further comprising: obtaining one or more name-centric action for application to the person name; and populating the data structure for the person name with the one or more name-centric action, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 25 through column 10, line 6, retrieving and providing to the user name specific actions such as allowing a user to contact another user.

17. With regard to claim 15, which teaches prior to providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data, labeling the person name in the electronic document to indicate available functionality, Agassi teaches, in column 9, lines 44-55, labeling the discussion objects.

18. With regard to claim 16, which teaches providing an icon in the electronic document adjacent to the person name for selectively displaying the graphical user interface, Agassi teaches, in column 9, lines 44-55, labeling the discussion objects for selection. IBO to provide a button to signify discussion objects. OBM this provides the user with a visual indication of a selectable discussion objects.

19. With regard to claim 19, which teaches the person-centric data includes office location information for the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6 and in figure 4, returning person related information such as a location.

20. With regard to claim 20, which teaches the person-centric data includes telephone numbers for the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6 and in figure 4, returning person related information such as a phone number.

21. With regard to claim 21, which teaches the person-centric data includes information related to additional person names associated with the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 26-43, a system that discovers discussion objects (which include names) and generate related items (which can include names) that can further be evaluated for related information (see column 10, lines 37-41). Agassi further teaches, in column 5, lines 28-64, information sources storing individual's personal contact information. Burkey further teaches, in paragraph 174 and in figure 11, person related data including the persons other personal contacts.

22. With regard to claim 22, which teaches the one or more data sources includes a contacts database, Agassi teaches, in column 5, lines 28-64, information sources storing individuals personal contact information.

23. With regard to claim 23, which teaches the one or more data sources includes an instant messaging database, Agassi teaches, in column 10, lines 2-6, a messaging provision.

24. With regard to claim 24, which teaches the one or more data sources includes a distributed computing environment directory services database, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 26-43, a system that discovers discussion objects (which include names) and generate related items (which can include names) that can further be evaluated for related information (see column 10, lines 37-41). Agassi further teaches, in column 5, lines 28-64, information sources storing individual's personal contact information.

Burkey further teaches, in paragraph 174 and in figure 11, person related data including the persons other personal contacts.

25. With regard to claim 26, which teaches a computer readable medium containing computer readable instructions which when executed by a computer perform a method for aggregating person-centric information for displaying in a user interface, comprising: parsing an electronic document for a electronic mail address associated with a person name, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-9 and in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, a system for gaining person related content regarding a piece of text (discussion object 355, "Geroge Simmons") found in a document. With regard to claim 26, which further teaches passing the select text to one or more data sources containing person-centric data; at one or more data sources, obtaining any person-centric data associated with the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 26-33, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, and in figures 1 and 5, a "supplemental content selector" [125] that gathers information pertaining to the "discussion objects" from "information sources" [110 and/or 135]. With regard to claim 26, which further teaches

Art Unit: 2173

populating data structure for the person name with any person-centric data obtained at the one or more data sources; and providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, Agassi teaches, in column 7, lines 49-58, column 9, line 50 through column 10, line 6, and figures 4 and 5, a "pagination engine" that collects the supplemental content related information and prepares it for display on the graphical user interface adjacent to the person's name. With regard to claim 26, which further teaches labeling the person name in the electronic document to indicate available functionality upon user selection of the labeled person name, providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, Agassi teaches, in column 9, lines 44-55, labeling the discussion objects for selection.

Though Agassi teaches finding a person's name in an electronic document (see column 6, lines 1-9 and in 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6), Agassi, however, doesn't explicitly teach parsing an electronic document to find an electronic mail address associated with a person's name or the highlighted text being selectable to reveal the context related content. Burkey teaches a system that gathers related content to select elements (participants listed) in an electronic document and provides the supplemental information from various sources to the user (see paragraphs 6 and 174), similar to that of Agassi, but further specifically teaches parsing the original electronic document to reveal relevant elements, including email address, to gain further information on. The supplemental information retrievable by user selection of a link imbedded in the scanned document (see paragraphs 6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art, having the teachings of Agassi and Burkey before him at the time the invention was made to modify the context sensitive content providing systems of Agassi to use parsing to reveal important objects (including email) in the text, and to provide the additional content upon selection of a link imbedded in the scanned document, as in Burkey. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this provides an art recognized efficient means for breaking down and analyzing text to detect relevant objects. Furthermore, selection of an highlighted item in a body of text is an art recognized efficient technique for revealing additional information about the element.

26. With regard to claim 27, which teaches if no email address is associated with the person name in the electronic document, recognizing the person name form text or data in which the person name is included: passing the recognized person name to a contacts database, and obtaining unique identifying information for the person name, and obtaining the email address from a context database, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-9 and 20-33, if no content metadata information exists for the text using a metadata enhancer to examine and determine metadata content, and subsequently checking the information sources for associated content. Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6 and in figure 4, returning person related information such email address.

27. With regard to claim 28, which teaches if the one or more data sources do not contain person-centric data matching the email address, querying a contacts database for an alternate email address associated with the person name; and passing the

alternate email address associated with the person name to the one or more data sources for obtaining person-centric data for the alternate electronic mail address, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-33 and in figure 1, first testing for the provided metadata on the databases, then a meta data enhancer may be used to further enhance the article by providing content metadata (or additional content metadata if some content metadata already exists).

28. With regard to claim 29, which teaches prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the any person centric data, building the data structure having data properties corresponding to person-centric data obtainable from the one or more data sources, Agassi teaches, in column 13, line 68 through column 14, line 21, a pagination that builds the data structure prior to being displayed.

29. With regard to claim 30, which teaches displaying one or more name-centric actions in the graphical user interface, Agassi teaches, in paragraph 9, line 25 through column 10, line 6, retrieving and providing to the user name specific actions such as allowing a user to contact the user.

30. With regard to claim 31, which teaches prior to providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, further comprising: obtaining one or more name-centric action for application to the person name; and populating the data structure for the person name with the one or more name-centric action, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 25 through column 10, line 6, retrieving and providing to the user name specific actions such as allowing a user to contact another user.

31. With regard to claim 32, which teaches providing an icon in the electronic document adjacent to the person name for selectively displaying the graphical user interface, Agassi teaches, in column 9, lines 44-55, labeling the discussion objects for selection. IBO to provide a button to signify discussion objects. OBM this provides the user with a visual indication of a selectable discussion objects.

32. With regard to claim 34, which teaches a system for aggregating person-centric information for displaying in a user interface, comprising: a computer operative to operate on one or more applications program modules and to display one or more electronic documents and graphical user interfaces, an application program operative to receive text or data in an electronic document; a persona menu application operative to parsing an electronic document for a person name, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-9 and in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, a system for gaining person related content regarding a piece of text (discussion object 355, "Geroge Simmons") found in a document. Agassi further teaches, in column 6, lines 26-33, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, and in figures 1 and 5, a "supplemental content selector" [125] that gathers information pertaining to the "discussion objects" from "information sources" [110 and/or 135]. Agassi further teaches a "supplemental content selector" [125] application that collaborates with a "user preference data base" [615] to query the "information sources" [110 and 135] for obtaining person-centric data (see column 10, lines 36-41 and figures 5 and 6). With regard to claim 34, which further teaches passing the select text to one or more data sources containing person-centric data; at one or more data sources, obtaining any person-centric data associated with the person name,

Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 26-33, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, and in figures 1 and 5, a "supplemental content selector" [125] that gathers information pertaining to the "discussion objects" from "information sources" [110 and/or 135]. With regard to claim 34, which further teaches populating data structure for the person name with any person-centric data obtained at the one or more data sources; and providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, Agassi teaches, in column 7, lines 49-58, column 9, line 50 through column 10, line 6, and figures 4 and 5, a "pagination engine" that collects the supplemental content related information and prepares it for display on the graphical user interface adjacent to the persons name. With regard to claim 34, which further teaches labeling the person name in the electronic document to indicate available functionality upon user selection of the labeled person name, providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, Agassi teaches, in column 9, lines 44-55, labeling the discussion objects for selection.

Though Agassi teaches finding a persons name in an electronic document (see column 6, lines 1-9 and in 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6), Agassi, however, doesn't explicitly teach parsing an electronic document to find a persons name or the highlighted text being selectable to reveal the context related content. Burkey teaches a system that gathers related content to select elements (participants listed) in an electronic document and provides the supplemental information from various sources to the user (see paragraphs 6 and 174), similar to that of Agassi, but further specifically

teaches parsing the original electronic document to reveal relevant elements to gain further information on. The supplemental information retrievable by user selection of a link imbedded in the scanned document (see paragraphs 6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Agassi and Burkey before him at the time the invention was made to modify the context sensitive content providing system of Agassi, to use parsing to reveal important objects (including email) in the text, and to provide the additional content upon selection of a link imbedded in the scanned document, as did Burkey. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this provides an art recognized efficient means for breaking down and analyzing text to detect relevant objects. Furthermore, selection of an highlighted item in a body of text is an art recognized efficient technique for revealing additional information about the element.

33. With regard to claim 35, which teaches to recognize a person name from text or data in which a person name is included, if no email address is associated with the person name in the electronic document, recognizing the person name form text or data in which the person name is included: passing the recognized person name to a contacts database, and obtaining unique identifying information for the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-9 and 20-33, first recognize meta data, if no content metadata information exists for the text using a metadata enhancer to examine and determine metadata content, and subsequently checking the information sources for associated content.

Art Unit: 2173

34. With regard to claim 36, which teaches if the one or more data sources do not contain person-centric data matching email address associated with the person name, querying a contacts database for an alternate unique identifying information associated with the person name and passing the alternate unique identifying information associated with the person name to the one or more data sources for obtaining person-centric data for the alternate electronic mail address, Agassi teaches, in column 6, lines 1-33 and in figure 1, first testing for the provided metadata on the databases, then a meta data enhancer may be used to further enhance the article by providing content metadata (or additional content metadata if some content metadata already exists).

35. With regard to claim 37, which teaches prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the any person centric data, building the data structure having data properties corresponding to person-centric data obtainable from the one or more data sources, Agassi teaches, in column 13, line 68 through column 14, line 21, a pagination that builds the data structure prior to being displayed.

36. With regard to claim 38, which teaches obtaining one or more name-centric action for application to the person name; and populating the data structure for the person name with the one or more name-centric action, and displaying one or more name centric actions, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 25 through column 10, line 6, retrieving and providing to the user name specific actions such as allowing a user to contact another user.

37. With regard to claim 39, which teaches providing an icon in the electronic document adjacent to the person name for selectively displaying the graphical user

Art Unit: 2173

interface, Agassi teaches, in column 9, lines 44-55, labeling the discussion objects for selection. IBO to provide a button to signify discussion objects. OBM this provides the user with a visual indication of a selectable discussion objects.

38. With regard to claim 42, which teaches the person-centric data includes office location information for the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6 and in figure 4, returning person related information such as a location.

39. With regard to claim 43, which teaches the person-centric data includes telephone numbers for the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6 and in figure 4, returning person related information such as a phone number.

40. With regard to claim 44, which teaches the person-centric data includes information related to additional person names associated with the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 26-43, a system that discovers discussion objects (which include names) and generate related items (which can include names) that can further be evaluated for related information (see column 10, lines 37-41). Agassi further teaches, in column 5, lines 28-64, information sources storing individual's personal contact information. Burkey further teaches, in paragraph 174 and in figure 11, person related data including the persons other personal contacts.

41. With regard to claim 45, which teaches the one or more data sources includes a contacts database, Agassi teaches, in column 5, lines 28-64, information sources storing individuals personal contact information.

42. With regard to claim 46, which teaches the one or more data sources includes an instant messaging database, Agassi teaches, in column 10, lines 2-6, a messaging provision.

43. With regard to claim 47, which teaches the one or more data sources includes a distributed computing environment directory services database, Agassi teaches, in column 9, line 26-43, a system that discovers discussion objects (which include names) and generate related items (which can include names) that can further be evaluated for related information (see column 10, lines 37-41). Agassi further teaches, in column 5, lines 28-64, information sources storing individual's personal contact information.

Burkey further teaches, in paragraph 174 and in figure 11, person related data including the persons other personal contacts.

44. With regard to claim 49, which teaches obtaining unique identifying information including any data associated with the person name that may be used to identify the person name, Agassi teaches, in paragraph 2, lines 22-33, column 6, lines 1-9, and paragraph 9, line 25 through column 10, line 6, the system using metadata to identify and link name elements to additional content.

45. With regard to claim 50, which teaches obtaining unique identifying information includes an electronic mail address for the person name, Agassi teaches, in column 5, line 60-64 and figure 4, the retrieved information comprising a linked email address.

Art Unit: 2173

46. Claims 17, 18, 25, 33, 40, 41, and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agassi, Burkey, and Grossman et al., Pub. No.: US 2004/0119761, hereinafter Grossman.

47. With regard to claims 17, 33, and 40, though Agassi and Burkey teach finding a persons name in an electronic document, and gathering contact information pertaining to the person from information sources (see Agassi column 6, lines 26-33, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, and in figures 1 and 5). Agassi and Burkey, however don't specifically teach the person-centric data includes online/offline status for the person name. Grossman teaches a system for retrieving contact information specific to a person from local or remote contact databases (see paragraphs 13-15), similar to that of Agassi and Burkey, but further teaches the contact information including online/offline status (see paragraph 15). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Agassi, Burkey, and Grossman before him at the time the invention was made to modify contact information retrieval systems of Agassi and Burkey to gather online/offline user status, as did Grossman. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because the user online/offline status is another useful piece of information to have when scheduling meetings and/or contacting of users as is done in the systems of Agassi and Burkey.

48. With regard to claims 18, 25, 41, and 48, though Agassi and Burkey teach finding a persons name in an electronic document, and gathering contact information pertaining to the person from information sources (see Agassi column 6, lines 26-33, in column 9, line 26 through column 10, line 6, and in figures 1 and 5). Agassi and Burkey, however

Art Unit: 2173

don't specifically teach the person-centric data includes free/busy status information for the person name. Grossman teaches a system for retrieving contact information specific to a person from local or remote contact databases (see paragraphs 13-15), similar to that of Agassi and Burkey, but further teaches the contact information including free/busy status (see paragraph 42). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Agassi, Burkey, and Grossman before him at the time the invention was made to modify contact information retrieval systems of Agassi and Burkey to gather free/busy user status, as did Grossman. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because the user free/busy status is another useful piece of information to have when scheduling meetings and/or contacting of users as is done in the systems of Agassi and Burkey.

Conclusion

49. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach systems that provide additional information to a documents context.

50. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone number is (571) 272-4047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

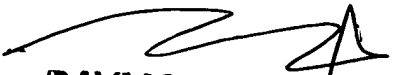
Art Unit: 2173

51. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

52. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

1-17-07

dgb



RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2173